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ABSTRACT

This book offers a reflective examination of the purposes of undergraduate education and argues for an integrated pedagogy that is intersubjective, interdisciplinary, and intercultural. The book is divided into three general parts. The first four chapters offer a systematic search for the first principles of education, including the educational philosophies of Plato, Alfred North Whitehead, John Newman, and others. This section also addresses such issues as the great books, the debate between large and competing ideas, and social reforms of the university. The second section, chapters 5 through 8, argues for a systematic restructuring of the basic purposes and aims of undergraduate education, based on a structure governed by Whitehead's "developmental stages" or "rhythms" of growth and learning. Also discussed in this section are global and multicultural learning and the campus as community. The final section argues that each university should labor to articulate and implement a unique vision of education. This section includes a chapter on the importance of leadership and one on an examination of Thomas Jefferson's experiment in higher education at the University of Virginia. A concluding chapter summarizes the book's major ideas. (Contains approximately 75 references; individual chapters contain notes.) (DB)



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